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# Topics for Prayer

AND

## Covenanted Intercession

IN FAVOR OF THE

### CONGRESS ON CHRISTIAN WORK

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### IN SOUTH AMERICA

(MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, APRIL, 1925)

RECOMMENDED FOR USE  
OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS

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The selfsame Jesus who commanded "Go ye"  
likewise said;

"Pray ye, therefore" and, "I have prayed for thee"  
"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also  
which shall believe on me through their word"  
"When ye pray, say... "Thy kingdom come...  
"If ye abide in me and my words abide in you, ye  
shall ask what ye will and it shall be done  
unto you".

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"O Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, have  
respect, we beseech thee, to the prayers of thy  
people, and send forth more laborers into thine  
harvest. Fit and prepare them by thy grace for  
the work of thy ministry; give them the spirit  
of power, and of love, and of a sound mind;  
strengthen them to endure hardness; and grant  
that the Holy Spirit may prosper their work, and  
that by their life and doctrine they may set forth  
thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all  
men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

(*Book of Common Prayer, Canada*)

*Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the abiding fruitage of the Panama Congress in awakened spiritual interest, in extended Christian brotherhood;

**f**or the valued reinforcements in personnel and equipment since 1916;

**f**or aroused concern among intellectual leaders, national reformers, moral pilots of youth, outstanding women, students and labor organizers; and for the providences which have favored the Church of Christ in its approaches to South America.

*Confession,*

**T**hat we are prone to forget the Giver even when we celebrate His gifts; that our motives in service have been overshadowed by unworthy or inferior aims, either cultural or patriotic;

**t**hat our ceasing to pray has accounted for a lessening of our humility and dependence upon God; and that small expectations have indicated our lack of faith in Him.

*Petition,*

**T**hat all missionary undertakings in South America may be initiated and promoted in Christ's spirit, every measure tending toward international amity, every system of education, and every organized effort to evangelize our sister Republics; that intercession be regarded by all workers as paramount in the Evangelical enterprise and indispensable, if wisdom and love are to prevail in all circles.

**F**or the men and women who have united their best effort in preparation for the Montevideo Congress; for the safety and blessing of all delegates who travel in order to foregather there; and for a re-vitalized Christian experience in every representative at Montevideo.

**T**hat deliberately and consciously, every delegate may accord Jesus Christ the pre-eminence; and that every advance in common endeavor may be consolidated by the Spirit in the churches represented.

## THE DELEGATES TO THE MONTEVIDEO CONGRESS

### *Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the blessed unity of the Spirit, focussing the preferred attention of men and women, diverse in temperament, gifts and training, upon the all-absorbing program outlined in the Great Commission.

**F**or the dedication of their redeemed manhood and womanhood to its accomplishment.

### *Confession,*

**T**hat we have neglected the millions of Indians, still in their primitive savagery, enthralled by their superstitions; while we have been slow to recognize our moral allies and to fraternize with conscientious and unselfish lovers of their fellow-men.

### *Petition,*

**T**hat all relationships between delegates may be marked by candor, justice, mutual respect and love; that truth may be sought with a view to human betterment; that all who differ in opinion may receive such considerate treatment as befits their high calling as Christian brethren; and that the end kept resolutely in view may be the enthronement of Christ in human life all over the Continent.

*Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the thousands of believers who have developed a consciousness of privilege in adorning and extending the doctrine of God their Saviour; for the degree of self-maintenance already attained by the churches; **f**or the high ethic upheld in their standards; and for the evangelistic fervor of their outreach toward the unconverted.

*Confession,*

**T**hat labors have not been yet more abundant among women, children, students and workingmen whose aloofness is due, in part at least, to lack of friendly cultivation.

*Petition,*

**F**or a far-reaching revival which may sweep multitudes into the Kingdom of God and become the dynamic for social reforms; and for such brotherly love as may obliterate all obstacles to the solidarity of discipleship from Panama to Patagonia.

**T**hat the exponents of Christianity may steadfastly and victoriously contend for the supremacy of the spiritual, for the preciousness of faith and for the matchless glory of our Saviour Christ.

**T**hat the spontaneous expression of Christ's free Spirit through the South American Church in public and private life may avert all hypocrisy and ill-will toward men.

**F**or a Church committed to the task of improving the lot of all classes in full accord with the teaching and example of Christianity's Founder.

*Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the Evangelical educators who have built their lives into institutions of learning; for the host of youth, trained in our Christian schools; and for the widespread indorsement by South Americans of the motives, methods and objectives of such teachers.

*Confession,*

**T**hat the number of winsome and capable Christians graduated from our Mission schools has been comparatively small; and that class-room activities have crowded out effort to win souls for Christ.

*Petition,*

**F**or an increased number of teacher-evangelists, aflame with enthusiasm and aglow with love for youth, who cherish a profound and undiscourageable belief in the divine possibilities of missionary education.

**F**or true partnership with all guides of South American students in their attempts to elevate moral standards and dignify public service.

**F**or adequate financial support of all promising schools.

**F**or a system of education which exalts Jesus Christ and, at the same time, fits for the highest type of character and citizenship; and for teachers who can make science the handmaid of religion.

**F**or a general movement of S. American students Christ-ward.

**F**or the approaching Educational Conference in Montevideo and for all who travel in the interests of enlightenment and uplift.

*Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the good confession, before many witnesses, of so many pastors, evangelists, colporteurs and teachers; for their work of faith and labor of love, their patient continuance in well-doing, their heroic and sacrificial devotion; and for the companies of disciples under their pastoral oversight.

**F**or the loyalty, gratitude and hospitality of national churches, and their notable contribution to the cause of our Master.

*Confession,*

**T**hat there have been occasions when we have but imperfectly fulfilled the obligation to prefer one another in honor; and that we have failed to evoke the best in each other because we have missed the best to be derived from our great Captain.

*Petition,*

**T**hat we may regard all South Americans as potential brethren in Christ Jesus, all comrades as yoke-fellows in the Gospel.

**T**hat the coming years may bring such an outpouring of the Spirit upon South American churches that their old men may see visions and their young men may dream dreams, that their sons and daughters may rise to supreme heights in their heavenly calling.

**T**hat there may be a competent, well-educated, sanely-disciplined ministry of valiant mould, prophetic temper and missionary outlook.

# INTERAMERICAN RELATIONSHIPS

## *Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the ennobling traditions of the Independence period when all political states were unified by the common passion for freedom.

**F**or the sacred principles proclaimed by South American liberators.

**F**or the autonomy of ten South American Republics and their passionate espousal of the rights of mankind.

## *Confession,*

**T**hat, for long intervals, we have ignored the co-citizenship of all Americans.

**T**hat our duty to evangelize has not always been as eagerly fulfilled as our right to trade.

**T**hat we have evaded the information which might have vitalized our interest and aroused our sense of moral responsibility.

## *Petition,*

**F**or Christian statesmen in posts of solemn trust, for diplomatic agents with a world-vision, for leaders in finance and foreign trade who may make commerce a means of international concord, for merchants with an assertive conviction of human values and residents abroad that their torch may burn undimmed amid their new neighbors in a needy land.

# A CONSTRUCTIVE CHRISTIAN PROGRAM FOR SOUTH AMERICA

## *Thanksgiving,*

**F**or the valuable contribution of our Committee on Cooperation in Latin America; for the union institutions successfully launched and administered to general advantage; for a growing friendliness among Evangelical bodies; and for the spiritual stature of South American pastors, teachers and authors.

## *Confession,*

**T**hat our thinking and planning have been national and denominational rather than continental and evangelical; and that we have been slow to perceive how large a share will be assumed by South American leaders.

## *Petition,*

**F**or clear-eyed humility to recognize God's choice and ordination of South Americans for the purpose of furthering the gospel in their own lands.

**F**or the joyous desire to link our lives in unsparing toil with the men and women who labor while they wait for the Kingdom.

**F**or a persistent belief that One is our Master, even Christ and that we all are brethren in Him.

Additional copies of this leaflet may be obtained from the Committee on Cooperation in Latin America, 25 Madison Avenue, New York City.